

# WARRUGANG News



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## WHAT WILL THE SNOW BE LIKE THIS YEAR?

Your editor could facetiously reply, "white & cold", but it is a question that is often asked as booking time approaches.

It seems that the internet is full of prognostications as to each year - which often prove incorrect.

There's a lot of interest in El Niño/La Niña and the Southern Oscillation Index, as it is said that La Niña causes a cooler snowier winter, while El Niño causes the opposite.

The Bureau of Meteorology have predicted that the most likely outcome is for a return to neutral conditions, but there is a chance of La Niña persisting for the rest of the year.

Are there any members who would like to do some research and comment on the science of this approach?

In the meantime, let's hope that the great snow in the northern hemisphere winter will translate into great snow in Perisher this year!

## BOOKINGS OPEN - CLOSING EARLIER THIS YEAR

We've started earlier this year - bookings have opened already and will close on—

- \* School holidays - 28 February.
- \* Remainder of the season - 15 April.

You should have already received a posted set of the winter booking information, including a booking form. The detailed tariffs, together with further copies of the booking form, are also on the Warrugang website.

Members without internet access can obtain extra booking forms from Kerry McEwan.

If you're booked into ski racing during your stay, don't forget to note that on your booking form.

Members and associates will notice a small increase in tariffs. We've tried to keep that to the minimum.

But Warrugang is still great value for members and their friends.

Yes — full weeks in the school holidays have returned.

We've also scrapped the restrictions on groups in peak season this year as all it appeared to do was to reduce our income, with no perceptible increase in members staying.

So, get your booking in as soon as you can — with all your friends.

There are no separate members, associates & friends priority periods this year - when bookings close, we'll just allocate to members first, then associates and then friends.



But after that cut-off date, it's "first-in, best-dressed" for everyone.

Don't wait until the snow starts - that could be too late!

We are finally underway to replace the cladding with metal pre-painted Lysaght "Easyclad" cladding. In addition, we'll change the windows that have leaked and replace the room 6 window with one that opens.

At the same time, we're taking the opportunity to set ourselves for a change of heating system to eventually reduce our reliance on electrical heating and move towards individually adjustable warm water heaters in each room, fed by a gas fired boiler. This year, we'll move from gas bottle supplied gas to a reticulated gas system and lay the piping for future room heating under the new cladding.

The existing hot air heating system will be serviced in time for winter.

## **SKI RACING 2011 BY HUGO LONERAGAN – Ski Racing in 2011 - come and represent Warrugang!**

There are plenty of events on the calendar to keep the ski racing enthusiast occupied this season. Whether you are a competitive racer or just like to participate there is something for everyone. The Perisher races are known for their social dimension and are conducted in very convivial spirit. Here is a sampling of what's on offer:

### **XC Race Week**

The second week of August is the busiest time of the year for cross country skiers, with a series of fun races and events across the valley. The week traditionally begins with the Boonoona Open on Sunday 7 August and concludes with the Snowy Mountain Classic on Saturday 13 August. The centrepiece of the week is the famous KAC - a race from Perisher to Charlotte Pass - which will be held on Wednesday 10 August. The KAC has long been a favourite event for Warrugangsters and is known for the marvellous hospitality extended to all competitors at the Chalet for the post-match reception and prize giving. There is also the night relay held under lights around a loop at the Nordic Shelter which is enthusiastically attended by many clubs - as competitors and spectators.

### **Perisher Cup**

In addition to the scheduled cross country races, there are other events later in the season such as the Perisher Cup. The Perisher Cup is a friendly inter-club competition, where teams of four participate in cross-country, giant slalom, and a jump. Any age and skiing ability can compete. Dates will be released after the season opening.

### **Warrugang Club Championships**

As has been customary at Warrugang since the club's inception, the Club Championships will once again be held during the Race Week in the second week of August. The men's and women's Slalom and XC events will be convened at a suitable time during the week. Make sure you book in for this week if you wish to enter the Club Championships!

## **NEW WARRUGANG BROCHURE**

We've moved up a notch in promoting Warrugang membership with a new brochure - designed to be printed on A4 and then folded into 3 so as to fit into the usual brochure stands.

A printed colour copy is attached for those who receive a hard copy of the newsletter and an electronic one for those who receive this by email.

If anyone knows of a lead, please either pass on the copy or call Graham Priddle who will follow up.

It is proposed that there will be a discussion at the AGM on the membership model for Warrugang.

A large sector of our membership is now becoming less active skiers and we need to replace members as they retire.

The Board is working on some possible membership models, which raises many questions, e.g.—

- \* Should we continue with our current full membership and Associate membership for family, or
- \* Should we widen Associate membership to bring in more Associates and, if so, what would the application fee be and should there be any restrictions on that (e.g. non family can only be associates until a set age, when they would be expected to apply for full membership)?

There are many facets around that - such as accommodation pricing and our corporate constitution.

Graham Priddle has provided some ideas below to help kick-start the discussion. Some are already in place, but may need some changes. Some may not be possible, but could germinate other ideas.

### **ENCOURAGING NEW MEMBERS - BY GRAHAM PRIDDLE**

Warrugang occupancy numbers are falling. Warrugang has to attract 5% new members each year in order to survive and prosper as a family lodge.

Members should be rewarded for supporting the club, e.g.—

- "Second week" per year members be able to take friends at reduced rates
- Bulk bookings result in a discount for the member responsible
- Special interest weeks in June/September - Gourmet meals, Health and Beauty, Tiny Tots
- Preference for members balloted out last year
- Late spring bookings at a discount compared with advertised rate
- Encourage friends - friends become members eventually
- Reserving beds whilst awaiting leave approval
- Financial commission/prize for members introducing new members

There needs to be 2 types of associate members—

- Waiting for membership
- Skiing members - who cannot afford full membership - time rich, dollar poor

Further thoughts - about attracting new members

- Advertising in ski magazines
- Offer potential members a discount for trying lodge
- Management fills beds in a partially full lodge
- Personal contact while skiing
- Accommodation vouchers offered to members who bring friends
- Friends rates are too expensive
- Prize for a ski race - weekend accommodation at lodge
- More advertising of advantages of Warrugang as a summer/ autumn holiday place



These suggestions are set out to stimulate the thoughts of every member. Please feel free to contact me on 0423 052 643.



## EASTER WORKING BEE

We need a lot of assistance in maintaining the Lodge.

For example, there's painting - particularly internally following the replacement of the cladding and some windows.

There's also some external painting required; such as the iron railings - as the Lodge is in an environment that degrades paintwork far faster than at our homes.

We need to replace the flyscreens wire to be bushfire area complaint.

The dining room needs attention - from the broken bench to the need to extend the current tables to cover the extra diners we can now accommodate.

And we've love to get the garage squared away so that members can leave their skis & boots in summer.

Lots and lots to do. Plenty of work for everyone.

So, how about volunteering to help your club at Easter?

Please call Peter Funnell on 0423 111 392 or email to [funn@bigpond.com](mailto:funn@bigpond.com).



## DIRECTORS & OTHER OFFICERS 2010/11

*If you've got a question, query or just a comment to make, please phone any one of us - but here's the specific areas we look after:*

### President & Newsletter:

Tim Doubleday (02) 9400 9332  
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### Treasurer:

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### Membership:

Graham Priddle (02) 6331 5837  
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### Lodge Bookings & Operations

**Liaison:** Jenny Loxton  
[jloxton@bsmp.com.au](mailto:jloxton@bsmp.com.au)

### Assisting the Board—

#### Booking Officer:

Kerry McEwan (02) 9997 7446

#### Energy Consultant:

Ellis Gentle

## CINDY BREW

Cindy has decided to retire from cross country skiing and has sent this letter—

*'As my last year of skiing I have given my cross country skis to Warrugang for use by members or their children.*

*Learner skiers may like to try these skis before buying their own.*

*They are "Trak" brand, 2 metres with fish-scale bases, not racing or touring. I would call them general purpose skis.*

*Hugo will be in charge of lending these skis when he is at the club, and David will be in charge of them at other times.'*

What a wonderful gesture!

## HUMOUR — English is a crazy language

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple.

English muffins weren't invented in England nor French fries in France.

Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend?

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one, what do you call it?

If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? And if the plural of mouse is mice, why isn't the plural of spouse, spice?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as you watch it burn down and in which you then fill in your insurance claim form by filling it out.

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